

CPA UK

ANNUAL REVIEW 2021-22





**Parliament to
parliament dialogue
is critically
important to share
best practice and
the CPA UK plays a
vital role in
facilitating this
dialogue.**



Catherine West MP,
UK House of Commons



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Through our programmes we've engaged with over:

1,050

From

71

Parliamentarians and
parliamentary officials

Legislatures across the
Commonwealth

What we do:



Public Accounts Committees

Working with Public Accounts Committees is a key way CPA UK helps to strengthen democracy.



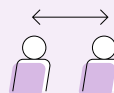
Women in Parliament

CPA UK works with women parliamentarians on representation and gender sensitive policy.



Modern Slavery

CPA UK aims to contribute to the global effort to end modern slavery.



Trade

CPA UK works with parliamentarians to strengthen scrutiny of international trade agreements.



Election Observations

As part of its commitment to strengthening democracy and good governance, CPA UK carries out and supports election missions across the Commonwealth.



Security

CPA UK facilitates dialogue between parliamentarians and other stakeholders on security.

From the Chief Executive



The aim of this Review is to look back at the past year through the eyes of Members of Parliament and show how CPA UK gives them opportunities to learn, network, advocate and promote democracy.

The year has seen both extraordinary continuity and extraordinary change. Continuity has been exemplified by the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen, Head of the Commonwealth. Aptly, CPA UK also marked a 70-year milestone in 2022, hosting the 70th Westminster Seminar, our flagship event that brings together parliamentarians from across the Commonwealth.

That same 70th Westminster Seminar was also an example of extraordinary change – our first-ever fully hybrid event. Over the year we honed how we use virtual ways to pursue our work. This has helped us make more connections, more often and more inclusively. And yet as travel restrictions fell away, we saw too the clear advantages of bringing people together in person – the warmth, the spontaneity, the depth.

Whether virtual, hybrid or in-person, our work remains about parliaments and their people. I am grateful for the continued support and commitment shown by UK Members and colleagues, for the funding from Parliament and Government which makes our work possible, and to the great team who deliver our programmes.

I hope you enjoy this Review, and can see how this extraordinary and enduring Commonwealth parliamentary network provides unique opportunities for reflection, learning and improvement; how by connecting with Commonwealth colleagues, Members of Parliament are exposed to different ways of working and of approaching challenges; and how they use this network to advocate on issues such as modern slavery, climate security and women's representation, as well as to uphold, strengthen and promote parliamentary democracy throughout the Commonwealth.

Jon Davies,
Chief Executive, CPA UK

From the Chair



I was privileged to once again Chair the Executive Committee of CPA UK for another year. Under the leadership of Jon Davies, the organisation continues to connect-up colleagues across the Commonwealth and champion parliamentary democracy.

I am grateful as ever for the support of a strong and active Executive Committee.

One of its Members was the late Sir David Amess. We were shocked and horrified at his senseless murder – David will be much missed by us all.

The Committee will also miss the wise advice of Baroness (Jean) Corston who stepped down after many years of service. Despite the circumstances, we were pleased to welcome Theo Clarke MP and Baroness (Gillian) Merron as new and energetic members of the Committee.

I want to take this opportunity to again urge my colleagues in both the House of Commons and House of Lords to connect with CPA UK, contribute to its excellent work and benefit from the learning afforded by connecting with our Commonwealth counterparts.

Ian Liddell-Grainger MP
Chair, CPA UK Executive Committee

**Through the work of CPA UK,
parliamentarians...**

Learn

Creating spaces for knowledge sharing is central to the work of CPA UK. Through CPA UK, parliamentarians have access to information and resources as well as colleagues from across the Commonwealth from whom they can learn and develop in their role as a legislator.



In a volatile and uncertain world, it's more important than ever to build relationships between democracies and Parliamentarians across the Commonwealth. We all face significant challenges in the areas of trade and security, and making sure gender equality and the rights of women and girls are a key part of our debates about policies and actions in these areas. Coming together to develop ideas and share perspectives, is crucial to strengthening our democratic institutions, international friendships and dialogue, especially within the Commonwealth family.



Stephen Doughty MP (UK House of Commons) speaking about the Africa Regional Workshop in Ghana



Africa Regional Workshop on Trade, Gender & Security | 24-26 January 2022

The Workshop gave Members of Parliament from the UK and across Africa a valuable opportunity to explore how parliaments can address the interconnected themes of trade, gender, and security.

UK-New Zealand Forum

Throughout 2021-22, CPA UK hosted several conversations between UK and New Zealand parliamentarians on topics of mutual interest, including trade, diversity, inclusion and sport. Members of the UK Parliament also had an opportunity to hear from the British High Commissioner to New Zealand on developing ties in the post-Brexit era.

PAC Online Training Course



Snapshot of speakers from the PAC Online Training Course

As part of the expansion of the CPA Parliamentary Academy, CPA UK, funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), has developed an online training course on Public Accounts Committees for Commonwealth parliamentarians and clerks.

This online training course aims to increase members and clerks' understanding and knowledge of the role, remit and work of the Public Accounts Committee. It is an online self-paced course intended to be as flexible as possible to fit into a busy parliamentary schedule.



Photos from the Africa Regional Workshop on Trade, Gender and Security in Accra, Ghana

**Through the work of CPA UK,
parliamentarians...**

Network

Through the work of CPA UK, parliamentarians have a unique opportunity to network with colleagues from across the Commonwealth. Through initiatives such as the Commonwealth Association of Public Accounts Committees (CAPAC) and the UK Overseas Territories Project (UKOTP), members have been able to connect with fellow parliamentarians, clerks and officials to explore issues relating to governance and public financial oversight.

CPA UK is also part of - and serves as the Secretariat for - the British Islands and Mediterranean Region (BIMR) of CPA. The BIMR umbrella enables CPA UK to join other branches, including Alderney, Cyprus, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Jersey, Malta, Northern Ireland, St Helena, Scotland and Wales, to explore topics of common interest.

Oversight of Public Finance and Good Governance Forum 2021

Hosted in partnership with the National Audit Office and the Government Internal Audit Agency, the forum provided a backdrop for delegates from Overseas Territories to identify ways to strengthen financial oversight and good governance.

“ **For me what emerged from the conference was how it’s not the size of the legislature that matters, it’s the quality. All member nations speak the same language, are working to the same goals and are faced with the same, often fluid, problems and challenges...** ”

Delegate at The 51st British Islands and Mediterranean Region (BIMR) Conference in Isle of Man



CPA BIMR Conferences

In 2021 parliamentarians from the BIMR Region were able to assemble in Northern Ireland to discuss post-Covid recovery. The Region's strategic priority theme for the previous year was scrutiny of Covid-19 governance.

The 2022 Conference was held in the Isle of Man with sessions designed around the theme of Impactful Scrutiny.

**Through the work of CPA
UK, parliamentarians...**

Advocate

Advocating on issues of global importance is another way parliamentarians benefit from engaging with CPA UK. On the issues of human trafficking in and through sport; gender and online harms; and climate change, they looked to champion policies and solutions which address some of the current challenges facing the Commonwealth today.



On the issue of human trafficking in and through sport, CPA UK has been at the forefront of raising awareness of this critical issue ahead of the Commonwealth Games and FIFA World Cup. This has included facilitating virtual stakeholder forums, producing resources for stakeholders and running online campaigns exploring the role of parliamentarians.

Actions to Prevent Human Trafficking through Sport Report

The report summarises a three-day workshop on trafficking through sport, held in partnership with NGO Mission 89.

Participants included parliamentarians, border officials and other key stakeholders.



CPA UK collaborated with Glitch UK to host three regional workshops for women parliamentarians. These focused on building resilience and strategies against online abuse and strengthening communication skills. This was accompanied by the creation of a practical resource pack for Members.

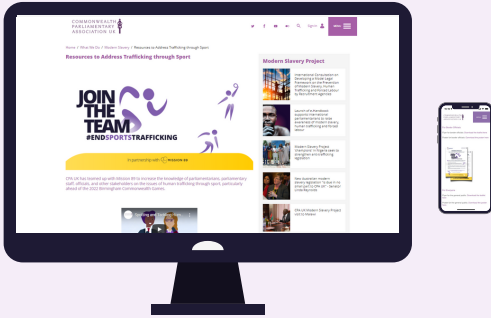
Guide to Managing Online and Offline Abuse

This guide was compiled based on the real-life experiences of women parliamentarians from around the Commonwealth.



With the UK hosting COP26, CPA UK contributed to the conversation by running several stakeholder forums and producing discussion papers on governance and multilevel action and what climate change means for national and international security.

The discussion paper- 'Climate Change Governance & the Challenge of Multi-Level Action'- invites parliamentarians to deepen their understanding of how actionable and responsive climate change policy can be formulated, implemented, and monitored within the entirety of their respective systems of governance.



CPA UK has released a series of resources for parliamentarians, staff and officials to increase their knowledge on the issues of human trafficking through sport. Produced in partnership with Mission 89 these resources, including leaflets and posters, will assist in spotting the signs of human trafficking through sport, as well as raising awareness more generally of this critical issue.



I was first made aware of [sports trafficking] when CPA UK reached out to me. It is when you are made aware of the issue that you understand how aspirational young people can be exploited in this way.

Jess Phillips MP
UK House of Commons



Although trafficking is a common term, I have a deep knowledge due to the UK Modern Slavery Project with CPA UK in 2018.

I come from a region where football is loved and everyone wants to play it, with people playing the sport as young as three years old. Women's football is also becoming increasingly common, so when we talk about trafficking through sport, we need to think of both genders.

Hon. Jared Okelo MP
Parliament of Kenya



**Through the work of CPA UK,
parliamentarians...**

**Promote
democracy**

With Westminster able to welcome guests following the pandemic, it was a privilege to be able to bring together Commonwealth parliamentarians and clerks to the Westminster Seminar. This year, CPA UK celebrated its 70th Westminster Seminar, marking seven decades of strengthening networks, exchanging ideas, and promoting parliamentary democracy.

With 23 legislatures represented in person, and 22 joining online, delegates had the opportunity to delve into the technicalities of their roles, ensuring relevance to delegates' specific roles and enabled the exchange of in-depth specialist knowledge.

“ **The Westminster Seminar helped me understand what my role as a parliamentarian should be and also how to be more effective, which will surely be a benefit to myself and my constituents.** ”

Delegate from Westminster Seminar



Another way in which CPA UK seeks to champion parliamentary democracy is through observing elections in UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies on behalf of the CPA British Islands and Mediterranean Region.



St Helena

An independent team of international experts conducted a virtual Mission to St Helena to assess the 2021 General Election. In their final report, the Mission proposed recommendations for improvement. These focused on issues including voter registration and education programmes.



Isle of Man

This was the first Election Observation Mission to be deployed to the Isle of Man. It was a valuable opportunity to assess the electoral process and legal framework against international standards and domestic laws. The Mission proposed 10 recommendations for further improvement.



Cayman Islands

CPA UK conducted a virtual Mission to the 2021 Cayman Islands General Election. Observers met key stakeholders to gain a better understanding of the process and context before offering recommendations to enhance election conduct.



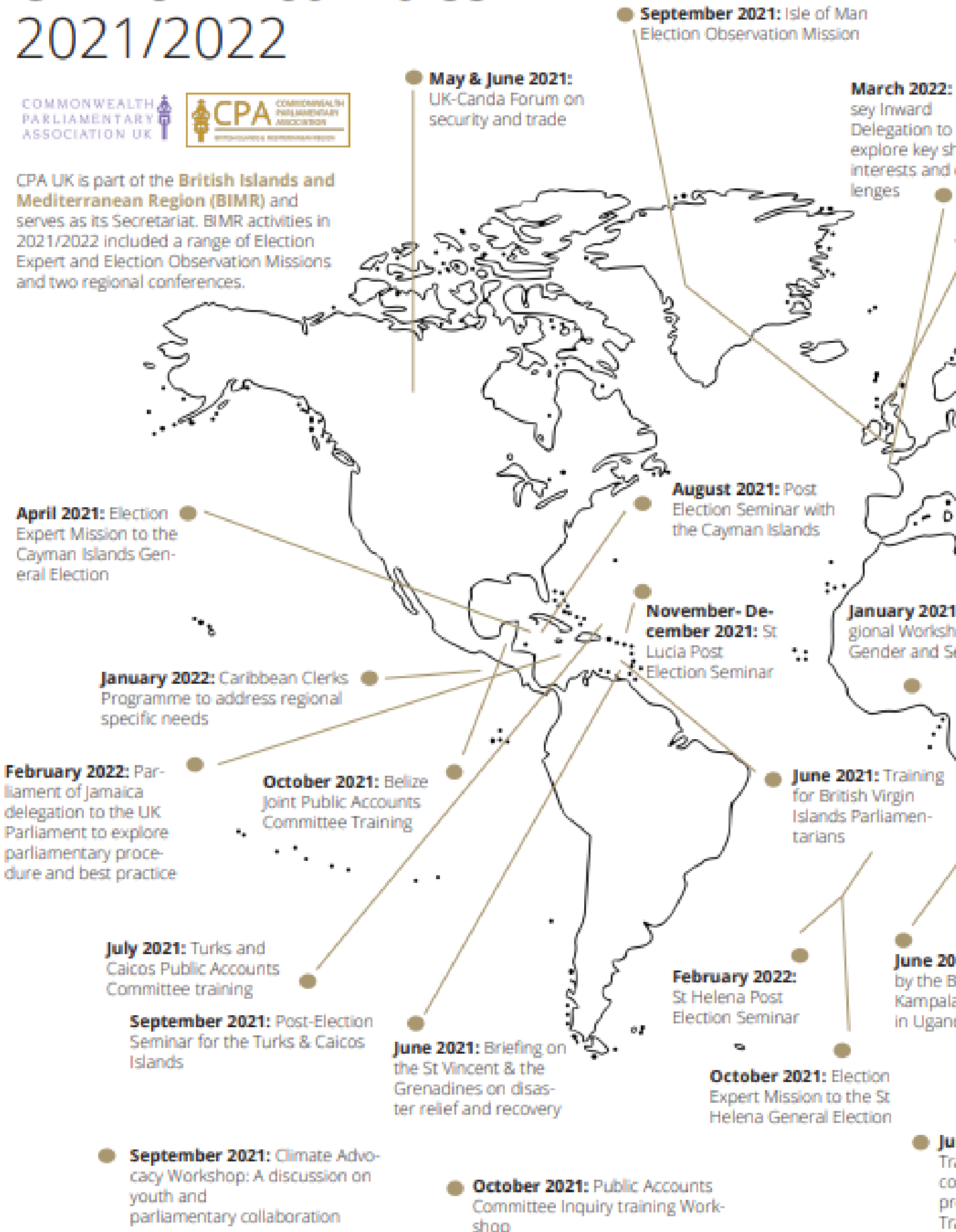
Election Observation Mission to Isle of Man (Top and Middle Right); Westminster Seminar (Middle Left and Bottom).

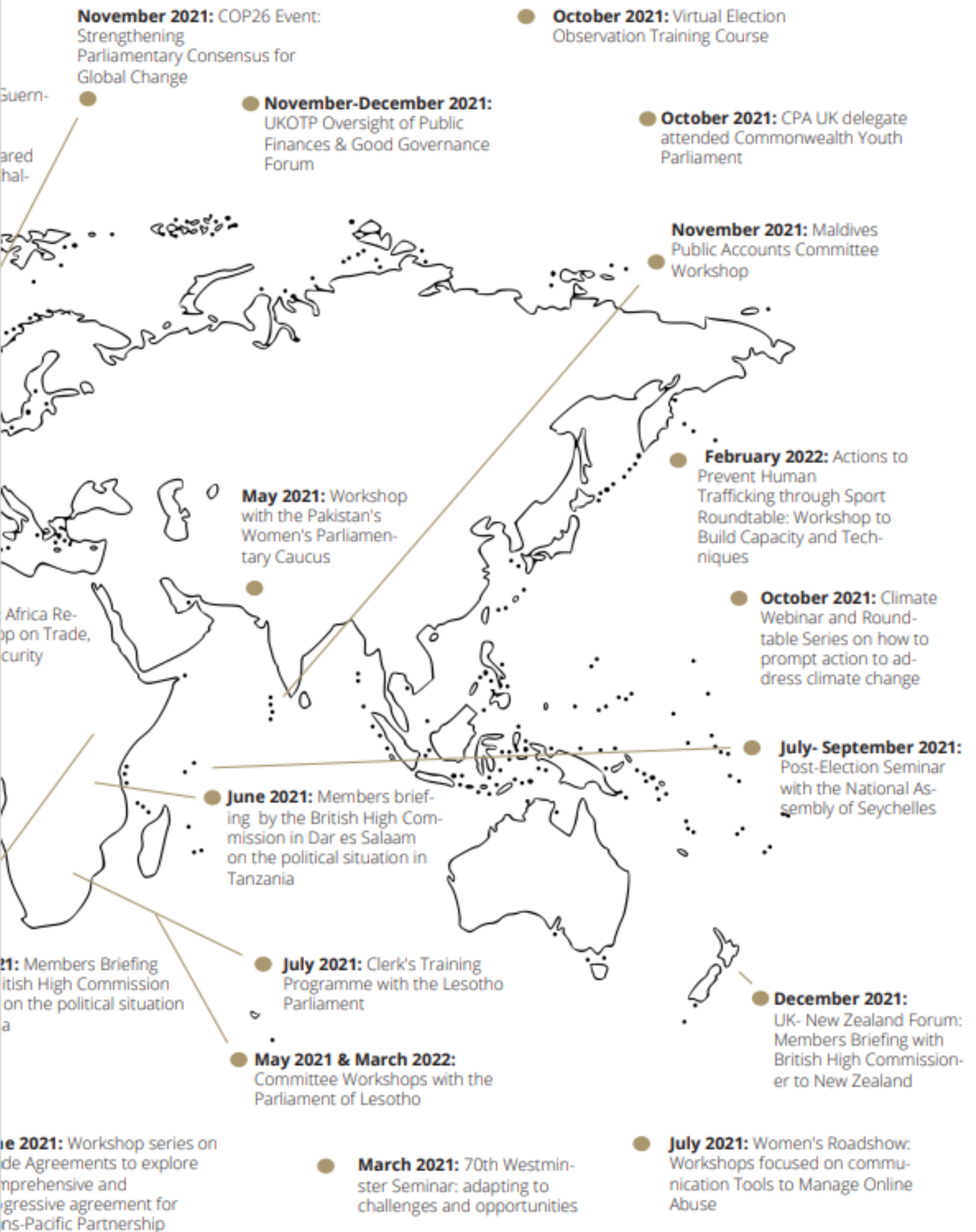
CPA UK Activities 2021/2022

COMMONWEALTH
PARLIAMENTARY
ASSOCIATION UK



CPA UK is part of the **British Islands and Mediterranean Region (BIMR)** and serves as its Secretariat. BIMR activities in 2021/2022 included a range of Election Expert and Election Observation Missions and two regional conferences.



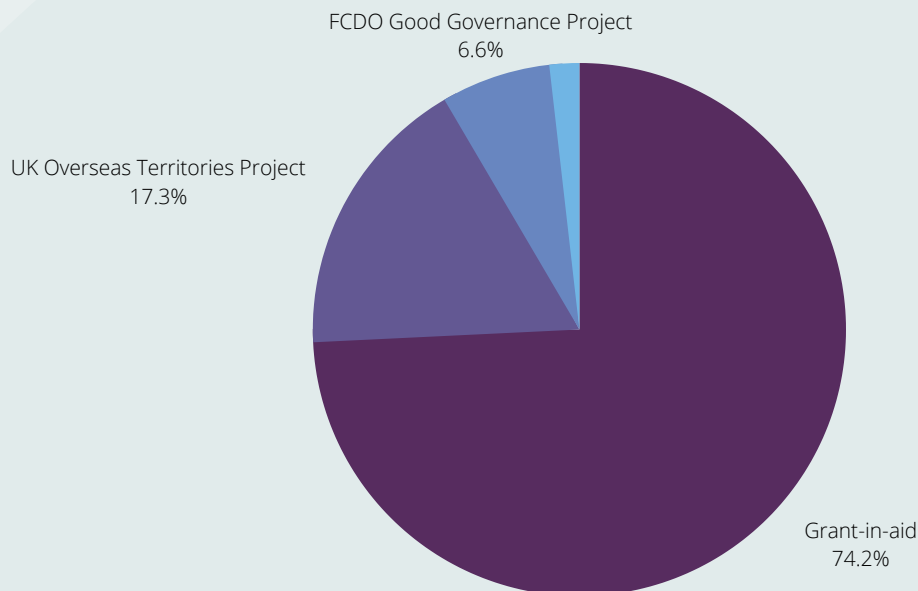


Financial Overview

In the financial year 2021/2022, CPA UK had an income of £2,505,773 which included an annual grant-in-aid payment of £1,860,190 from the UK Parliament (70% House of Commons/30% House of Lords).

The UK Overseas Territories Project had an income of £433,769. In addition, CPA UK secured £166,491 from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office for a Commonwealth Good Governance and Accountability Project. £45,323 was received from additional sources including government and parliamentary partners to undertake key activities such as enhancing the performance of parliaments, working with Public Accounts Committees and Electoral Observation Missions.

This is a summary of our financial activities, extracted from the audited accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022. Copies of the full Annual Reports and Accounts are available on the CPA UK website: www.uk-cpa.org.



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